



KNOWLEDGE AND USE FROM NATIONAL DIGITAL LIBRARY AMONG PHYSICIANS HOSPITALS AFFILIATED TO SHAHREKORD UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES IN 2012

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ABSTRACT

The importance of learning through electronic media in the majority of the scientific communities including the medical field is not hidden from anyone and based on the increasing spread of medical achievements, the need for specialized information databases is on the rise to inform the new findings. Thus, the aim of this study was to determine knowledge and use of physicians of hospitals affiliated with Shahrekord university of Medical Sciences from the National Digital Library. It is a descriptive study was carried out on the physicians of two teaching hospitals (Kashani and Hajar hospitals) and one clinical hospital (Vali Asr of Borujen). The population of this study was 60 physicians. Data collection was carried out by a researcher-designed questionnaire. Validity of the questionnaire confirmed by several professors and experts within Librarianship field and its reliability was confirmed by Cronbach's alpha Coefficient of 0/89. The data were analyzed using SPSS software 18. Knowledge and use of physicians from comprehensive electronic journals and databases is very low. There was no significant difference between the knowledge and use of hospital physicians and their academic degree and also the type of the hospital. There was a correlation between the two variables of knowledge and use of electronic databases. The physician reported that their most way of obtaining knowledge from electronic database was through librarian guidance. Due to the increasing development of e-learning and international competition in this field, it is necessary to inform and increase the awareness of the physicians about their knowledge and use of electronic bank for learning and access to updated scientific information.

Keywords: Knowledge, Physicians, Medical digital library, Electronic learning

1. INTRODUCTION

Increasing the volume of information in different sciences, including medicine, has led the researchers to make the access to information for physicians and health care providers by presenting the suitable solution. Ministry of Health and Medical Education with the creation of digital libraries provide the access to reliable information for the country's medical community in order to reach the information through print books, electronic magazines and the Internet [1]. In three recent decades integrated and comprehensive software for the scientific community, especially the medical community have been provided. Special skills and knowledge about the implementation of these intelligent methods is needed [2]. So that some experts as Backer considers it as the most important factor in the success or failure of computer and electronic system [3]. Ahmed et al.'s in a research done in the field of education and awareness, and web-based information retention achieved this result that the actions of the users and their usage of web-based information and depends on the level

of knowledge and education, and immediately after training they can use of electronic resources for learning in a better way, while after a period of time, their success in searching a web-based information and electronic resources is reduced [4]. In the researcher point of view a database must be located on the upper level of overall recovery, and one of the most important factors in evaluating electronic data bases in order to raise awareness of search features is its consistency with the international standards [5]. Hover and Ten opining their study concluded that users of some of the web sites due to the lack of appropriate search and also lack of awareness are not able to get the right information to achieve and hence it has influence on the usage of the data base [6]. In the field of evaluating the meta data elements in a web environment as an affecting factor in the use of electronic data bases lots of research has been done. Ravandi in his research concluded that metadata element, key words and descriptive words used in electronic data bases are rare in Iran [7]. And while Mohamed also

indicated that the describing elements and keywords affect the

So if the physicians are aware of electronic resources on their expert is their use and their interest will be increased. Ranking in the study of information needs and medical information field believe that users are more interested in using new technology to search information and mostly start their research on their specialized website [1]. Papi et al. evaluated the esoteric knowledge and use physicians in using electronic resources in training hospitals of Isfahan and concluded that the specialists due to the lack of time and information use these resources less [9]. By reviewing the literature related to this topic, there were not found any similar cases which evaluate the use of electronic information resources in the digital library among the physicians working in Shahrekord University of medical sciences hospital. Thus, the aim of this study was to determine the knowledge and use of physicians of hospitals of the National Digital Library and the related issues in order to suggest a solution for promoting the awareness and usage of electronic resources and providing the awareness of up to date knowledge.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

This research was an applied -descriptive. Research community were the physicians in a training hospitals and a medical hospital affiliated with Shahrekord University of Medical Sciences and the sample size consisted of 60 physicians who were randomly assigned to the study from two Hajar and Kashani training hospital and Vali Asr medical hospital. The Program was executed in 2013 and data collection method was a researcher made. The validity of questionnaire was confirmed by several experts in the field of library and its reliability was confirmed 0/89 by Cronbach's alpha coefficient. Data were analyzed using the software Spss11.5. In this research data were analyzed using descriptive statistics of mean and distribution of data. And the knowledge and use of electronic resources by physicians were analyzed by coefficient correlation.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The present questionnaire was designed in order to determine the physicians' level of awareness and use of digital libraries. Physicians were asked to rate the awareness and use of electronic resources in accordance with INMDL based on the Likert scale. And the results were then analyzed and described. Results of table1 show the knowledge of 37/6%of physician from the electronic journals is very low, awareness of 42/1% of physicians from e-books is very low and the awareness of 67/9% of physicians from total resources bank is very low (table1).

Results of table 2 show the usage of 35/5% of physicians from the electronic journal is very low, rate of 39/8% of physicians in using electronic book is very low and usage of

pages ranking through search engines [8].

57/1% of physicians from total resources bank is very low (table 1).

Table1. Distribution of electronic information resources among physicians

Total resources bank (%)	E-book (%)	Electronic Journals (%)	
67.9	42/1	37.6	Very low
12.1	12.5	18.1	low
7.1	4.7	8.6	average
0.5	0.5	2.3	high
0	0	0.8	very high

Table2. Frequency of medical use of electronic information resources

Total resources(%)	E-book(%)	Electronic Journals(%)	
57.1	39.8	35.5	Very low
11.2	10.1	17.8	low
6.6	4.1	3.4	average
0.5	0.5	2.2	high
0	0	0.8	Very high

Table3. Frequency of use of physicians from the medical digital national bank

Research and survey	familiarity with information	training	treatment	Uses
25.1%	22.1%	12.5%	13.1%	Frequency

Table 4. Reasons for not using the medical digital national bank by physicians

Non-observing the standard structure of the Web	Not required	Lack of Librarians guidance	Lack of awareness	Lack of use
5.4%	7.1%	9.1%	20.2%	Frequency

Hypotheses were tested in this study included: Is there any correlation between physician awareness and usage of electronic resources? With regard to the principles of physicians randomly selection, is there any relation between expertise and the degree of physicians education and their specialty and usage of electronic resources? Is low awareness of physicians associated with metadata elements and web search information?

Statistics in hypothesis 1 suggests that there was a significant relationship between the awareness and the journals was 88%, between the awareness and use of electronic book it was 51%, and between the awareness and usage of holistic banks it was 73%. Statistics in connection with Hypothesis 2 showed that there is a significant relationship between the level of awareness and use of medical digital national bank and the degree and specialty of physicians (Tables 3 & 4).

Other results showed that most physicians did not use the medical digital national library. Kashani hospital physicians had the most use of electronic information resources. Among the electronic documents, electronic journals were used, more than all other sources.

Using more specific elements by physicians in the web hypertext markup language can improve their access to knowledge. The findings suggest that physicians' knowledge and use of the digital national library of medicine (e-journals, e-books, comprehensive electronic banking) was very low. Familiarity of physicians with INMDL demands the librarians help. The point is that in previous study done by Aqajani, the use of electronic resources mentioned as nearly average [10]. Papi in their study showed that the use of electronic resources among physicians of Isfahan university of medical sciences, was 68 percent [11]. while another research by Sadeghi et al. 2009 [9] and Rahimi in 2010 concluded that physicians are more likely to use printed resources and this may have led to increase the desire to learn and the willingness to use electronic resources and databases from the web [12]. Mojiri in their study conducted in 2011 concluded that the familiarity and use of electronic data bases and electronic resources by physicians is very low and in order to overcome this problem librarians play an important role in guiding and informing the physicians [13]. Given the large sums that the Ministry of Health and Medical Education pay for launching the Digital National Library of Medicine still a small percentage of physicians use from this rich academic resources and even many of them do not know about how to use the National Digital Library of Medicine. Thus, according to the result it is necessary to take suitable actions for physicians in needs assessment domain to become familiar with the medical digital national bank of information, and also suitable training workshop for physicians is required. The use of other facilities, including the sharing of scientific information and providing training manuals to physicians to be aware of the electronic data base of the national bank of medical digital library and

physicians' use of digital bank electronic resources, and the correlation between the awareness and use of electronic finally to cooperate more in Librarianship field for training physicians can pave the way for this problem.

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